

Hi, this is Sally Oxenhandler with your MoDOT Minute.

The Missouri Department of Transportation is gearing up for winter weather. Missouri has joined 10 other Midwestern states on a campaign to remind motorists: in Ice and Snow, Take it Slow. MoDOT spends \$30 million a year on snow and ice removal. Last year, 3,000 employees spent 541,000 hours keeping the roads clear.

One way to stay safe in winter weather is to check driving conditions before you head out. A visit to MoDOT's online Traveler Information Map at [modot.org](http://modot.org) will tell you everything you need to know about current driving conditions. Another reminder: when you're driving in snowy conditions, give snowplows plenty of room to work, don't tailgate and try not to pass.

MoDOT has just submitted its annual report to the Missouri legislature, showing sound financial practices and improving road conditions statewide. As a result:

- Missouri has gone from having the third worst pavement on major roads to an estimated ninth best.
- Seventy-four percent of the state's major roads are now in good condition.
- The state jumped from 28<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> in overall performance of the state highway system.
- Missouri recorded the largest drop in traffic-related fatalities of any state in the nation in 2006.
- Customer satisfaction with MoDOT rose from 75 percent in 2005 to 79 percent in 2006.

That's been your MoDOT Minute. Remember to visit [modot.org](http://modot.org) every Tuesday for new information.